

Charles Darwin International PhD Scholarship (CDIPS)

Project: Estimating the lifelong impact of the Birthing in Our Community (BiOC) Service on health adjusted life expectancy

Principal Advisor: Associate Professor Yu Gao PhD MD GCHEcon

Course: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Study and Thesis Model: Full time, PhD by Publication

Expected Commencement Date: 31 January 2021 (negotiable)

About Charles Darwin University (CDU)

We are a new world university. Like our namesake, Charles Darwin, we think differently. We innovate, embrace change, challenge conventions and look for better ways. We're not about tradition or legacy, privilege or exclusivity. We care about people as individuals, and about our wider society. We're about what we can give to the world, rather than what we take. We cannot build a new world without diversity of thought, so we bring together people with unique perspectives in an inclusive and supporting learning environment to help them connect, discover and grow. This is the CDU difference.

About Molly Wardaguga Research Centre (MWRC)

The Molly Wardaguga Research Centre was established in April 2019 and is dedicated to the late Molly Wardaguga, Burarra Elder, Aboriginal Midwife, Senior Aboriginal Health Worker and founding member of the Malabam Health Board in Maningrida, Arnhem Land. Molly was an important contributor to the Australian discourse regarding the importance of Birthing on Country. Her work and mentoring in Aboriginal health and research; and maternal and infant health, in particular, has galvanised many advocates to improve maternity services for Indigenous Australians. Molly's vision to support women's cultural and birthing aspirations, especially those living in remote locations, will endure through the Molly Wardaguga Research Centre.

The PhD Scholarship Opportunity

The CDIPS will bring together CDU supervisors and high-quality international students to have joined forces in the timely completion of the students' PhD degrees and publication of high-quality research outputs during the candidature. It is expected that the CDIPS will equip students with significant publication records before graduation to launch their careers. The scholarship consists of tax-free stipends and tuition fee waivers. Each stipend will be for \$30,000 per year (adjusted yearly) for 3 years, with an additional one-off \$5,000 allocated to support part of the student's medical insurance and relocation. Tuition fees of the PhD course (approx. \$28,000 per year, adjusted yearly) will also be waived for 3 years. The stipends and tuition fee waivers may be extended to 3.5 years, for students who demonstrate publication of high-quality research outputs prior to applying for extension.

About You

The selection of applicants for the award of the CDIPS involves consideration of your academic merit and research background. The following essential selection criteria apply:

- A first-class Honours degree or a Master's degree containing a substantial research component in a related area e.g. health economics, public health, economics, midwifery, paediatrics or obstetrics
- Theoretical understanding in using decision modelling for health economic evaluation
- Demonstrated experience and skills in conducting systematic reviews (including meta-analysis), advanced statistical analysis using Stata or R, and health economic evaluation
- Proven research track record of contributing to international peer-reviewed journal publications
- Demonstrated English language proficiency required for postgraduate courses in CDU (<https://www.cdu.edu.au/international/how-apply/entry-requirements>).

Application Process

Interested applicants should contact **Associate Professor Yu Gao** (Lead Chief Investigator of the CDIPS) by email on yu.gao@cdu.edu.au. Applicants will then be required to provide the below items:

- Curriculum vitae, including details of 2 academic referees
- A cover letter outlining a) your research interests, and b) how you meet the above selection criteria
- A copy of your academic qualifications, academic transcripts and thesis
- Evidence of English language proficiency (e.g. IELTS) if your degree(s) were not completed in English

The initial closing date for the EOI is **1 December 2020**. The preferred applicant will be invited to apply for a PhD enrolment on-line.